

## A PERSPECTIVE OF REHABILITATION IN PENNSYLVANIA

### *Introduction*

At this time of the Silver Anniversary of the Pennsylvania Rehabilitation Association (PRA), it is appropriate to recall the past and speak of the present as we establish the future direction of the Association. In recalling the past of rehabilitation, one cannot overlook the sound words of Mary E. Switzer, the former Administrator of H.E.W.'s Social and Rehabilitation Services. As she reviewed the exciting developments of rehabilitation in the 1950's, she stated that "Such a development does not come about by spontaneous combustion. Behind it have been the men and women who sense the ultimate importance of what they seek, who keep driving for what they believe in, and who find in the struggle enough satisfaction to fill a lifetime."

Today we salute our Pennsylvania pioneers who were such an important part of that struggle. The brief history that follows may help to reawaken memories for the pioneers, and hopefully will give the younger members of PRA some idea of the work that has been done by PRA in the past.

It is my hope that the membership today realizes that the strength of their professional organization continues today, but it is sustained by members who are willing to contribute their share to maintain the goals established by the pioneers in Philadelphia in 1952.



A handwritten signature in dark ink, appearing to read "C. Eby". The signature is fluid and cursive, with a long horizontal line extending from the end of the name.



## DISABLED VETERANS

Following the American Revolution, the War of 1812, and the Mexican War, the disabled veterans programs consisted of pensions for the duration of service connected disability. The states had the responsibility of locating, identifying and determining the eligibility for the individual disabled veterans.

In 1917, Congress passed the Smith-Hughes Act, which created the Federal Board for Vocational Education. This Board later became the administrative body for the disabled veterans program as well as the Federal-State Vocational Rehabilitation program for disabled civilians.

At the end of WW I, in 1918, Congress and the public were ready for disabled civilian rehabilitation programs. The veterans programs had been an impressive experiment in an essentially unknown discipline called rehabilitation.

The development of the voluntary movement, the success with injured workers, and the determination of comprehensive services for disabled veterans, signaled that science and technology had arrived to serve the civilian disabled population.

### P.L. 236 — A BILL OF RIGHTS

President Woodrow Wilson signed the Civilian Vocational Rehabilitation Act P.L. 236, on June 2, 1920. It gave those disabled by public accident, and disease, the same opportunities extended to injured workers and to disabled veterans.

This Act of Congress was the first humanitarian instance where Federal public funds would be provided to be matched with State appropriated funds to assist civilians to rise above their disabilities. It marked the beginning of the Federal-State enterprise to lead handicapped persons into social and economic equality.

Gradually, as the states passed compulsory workmen's compensation laws, which included retraining and placement services, more and equal services were made available to disabled civilians in keeping with the language and spirit of the act, which states:

"That for the purpose of the act the term 'persons disabled' shall be construed to mean *any person* who, by reason of a physical defect or infirmity, whether congenital or acquired by accident, injury, or disease is, or may be expected to be totally or impartially incapacitated for remunerative occupation...."

President Wilson proudly signed this legislation although there was opposition which blasted the providing of federal funds to states as unconstitutional since it invaded human rights. One Senator regarded the bill as Bolshevistic. The opponents who insisted on limiting services to persons disabled in any legitimate occupation called it paternalistic and too visionary.

In P.L. 236, Congress appropriated \$750,000 for the first fiscal year commencing in 1921 and one million for the next three consecutive fiscal years. This federal appropriation level continued until 1939.

## **THE EARLY YEARS**

It was the community-based and national voluntary associations that first developed and practiced a modern rehabilitation concept and process for the disabled.

Early in the 20th century, there was evidence of a changing emphasis from poor relief and charity to a rehabilitation attitude. The impact of the first national conference on vocational rehabilitation held in St. Louis, May, 1922 was a beginning of the idea that disabled persons, men, women, and children must have specialized or individualized programs to rescue them from social and vocational oblivion. It was the beginning of an acceptance that government must assume financial responsibility and supervision for the disabled.

Primarily the federal leadership role was to encourage states and voluntary organizations to sponsor comprehensive medical, psychological, social, and vocational services to the millions of disabled civilians.

In 1902, Dr. Reverend E. J. Helms started a program in the Morgan Chapel, Boston, Mass. on the premise that the poor recipient should assist the volunteers. The recipients worked for tiny wages and a share of the material they needed. They would help to collect, sort, mend, and clean clothing. Some, with the necessary skills, would repair furniture.

From this program there was founded the Goodwill Industries in Brooklyn, New York. Today this program is extended to approximately 150 cities.

In 1904, the National Tuberculosis Association was organized in Philadelphia, Pennsylvania. The major emphasis was education of the public, prevention, control, vocational rehabilitation, a suitable working environment, after-care, and social, as well as community re-establishment.

In 1921, the National Society for Crippled Children and Adults was organized. One of the functions was the physical and vocational rehabilitation of adults. Today it is known as the Easter Seal Society and conducts rehabilitation centers, workshops, diagnostic centers, homebound programs, recreation and educational camps and centers.

## **INJURED WORKERS**

Leaders of organized labor, industrial accident boards and commissions, and the Federal and State Departments of Labor were perceptive enough, and articulate enough, to move Congress and the state legislative bodies to meet the needs of injured workers.

As early as 1908, a Federal law was enacted providing for workmen's compensation for Federal employees.

President Woodrow Wilson called on industry to alleviate the misery of injured workers created by the great industrial achievements.

In 1911, ten states enacted compulsory compensation laws. Then ten years later, forty-five of the states and territories had injured worker benefits. Each state varied in the administrative aspects, scope of benefits and system of insurance.

Mr. Thomas Donaghy was designated as the Assistant to the Executive Officer to represent the Chairman and to be the liaison representative between the Department of Labor and Industry, the Department of Public Instruction (Education) and the State Board for Vocational Education.

To say the least, this was a complex, and complicated line of authority. To make it real fuzzy with ultra-confusion, the Secretary of Labor and Industry appointed Mr. Andrew Bashore as director. The State Board for Vocational Education appointed Mark Walter as Director.

By 1937 there were seven district offices with a staff of 18 agents (now called counselors), and 16 clerks. The Pennsylvania program developed the first rehabilitation Case Worker's Manual that was adopted by the Federal agency and distributed to other state programs.

In 1958, the Honorable William L. Batt, Jr., Secretary of Labor and Industry, promoted Charles L. Eby to assume the responsibilities of the Director of the Bureau of Vocational Rehabilitation upon the retirement of Mark Walter.

The new director referred to the promotion not as replacing Mark Walter, but as a charge to maintain the level of accomplishment. It was the new director's hope to accelerate the rate of progress in the field of rehabilitation. With the support of the National Rehabilitation Association (NRA) and a very active Pennsylvania Rehabilitation Association, he saw the rehabilitation program surge ahead.

### **NRA — AN ORGANIZATION IS BORN**

In 1923, Mr. C. C. Riddle, Pennsylvania's Director of BVR, was selected to preside at the first Vocational Rehabilitation Sectional Meeting of the Annual Conference of the National Society of Vocational Education, which was held in Buffalo, New York. This Rehabilitation Section Meeting constituted the first stated meeting of State Rehabilitation Directors in the United States. At the 1923 Annual Conference of the National Society of Vocational Education, W. F. Faulkes, of Illinois, organized a meeting to discuss the advisability of an independent vocational rehabilitation association. There was considerable resistance to forming another national organization from members and officers of vocational education. This was the first time that the vocational rehabilitation representatives requested a sectional meeting and they voted to identify their group as "The National Civilian Rehabilitation Conference." As misleading as the term "conference" could be, the group was opposed to being a division of the parent organization of vocational educators. One must keep in mind that the original organizers of this group were at a disadvantage because their superiors were members and officers of the National Society of Vocational Education.

The spin-off that ended with the formulation of NRA, began with this first titled association of federal and state vocational rehabilitation employees. The National Civilian Rehabilitation Conference continued to function as a section of the parent organization of vocational educators until 1925 when the conference members voted to change the name to the National Rehabilitation Association. W. F. Faulkes became the first president of the NRA.

It was the intent of Congress to motivate states to improve their present programs or initiate new vocational rehabilitation programs for injured workers as well as disabled civilians. After 1924, the programs were to be financed with state funds. This was referred to as the four-year federal trial period. Today this would be classed as a "Sunset" provision. The purpose is to make a program prove itself.

The Federal Board for Vocational Education was designated in the Act as the administrative and policy-making body. The Board named executive officers to assume the implementation of the vocational rehabilitation programs and created the Industrial Rehabilitation Division.

John Kratz, a member of the faculty of Baltimore City College in Maryland was named Chief of the Industrial Rehabilitation Division. State Administrators referred to John Kratz as "the Chief". He was effective at the conference table with lawmakers and with federal and state officials. This was the skill needed for a tenacious beginning. He was well schooled in the process of politics and bureaucracy.

Each state had their own organizational structure and function. It was essential to bring the state officials to a firm understanding of what was required in a Federal-State relationship and how to have a common cause objective.

### **PENNSYLVANIA — A PIONEER STATE**

Pennsylvania was one of the first states to have a Bureau of Rehabilitation, (BVR). The services were initially restricted to assist injured workers to return to employment. The program was administered by the department of Labor and Industry and was inaugurated in 1918. Mr. C. C. Riddle was appointed to serve as the first Director of BVR.

In 1921, Pennsylvania legislated an enabling act which met the provisions of the Federal Vocational Rehabilitation Program. The enabling act required the formulation of a plan of cooperation by the State Department of Labor and Industry with the State Board for Vocational Education. The Board was a separate entity in the Department of Public Instruction (Education). The plan of cooperation was a compromise to satisfy two departments in the State and relieved the Governor from deciding in favor or against one or the other. In keeping with the Federal Act, the State Board for Vocational Education had to be the sole administrative state authority. To earn the federal vocational rehabilitation funds, the Pennsylvania cooperative agreement stipulated the Bureau of Rehabilitation in the Department of Labor and Industry would be reimbursed for rehabilitation expenditures that were directly related with the federal provisions.

However, the Pennsylvania enabling act, with the required plan of cooperation, dictated that when the State Board for Vocational Education convened to discuss vocational rehabilitation, the Secretary of Labor and Industry would be the Chairman and Executive Officer. This applied to all meetings concerned with rehabilitation personnel and supervision.

Initially the NRA voted to have an exclusive organization. They limited active voting members to be persons who were engaged in the vocational rehabilitation work for disabled civilians in the employ of the federal or state government. Other workers engaged in rehabilitation could become an associate member with consent of the Executive Committee. In 1928 the constitution of the NRA was amended to permit voting membership to be offered to all persons engaged in rehabilitation.

In 1933, the Association authorized the formation of state chapters. At that time chapter membership was restricted to physically disabled persons.

### **NRA LEGISLATION FOR THE DISABLED**

Legislative matters were occupying much of the time and utilizing most of the funds of the NRA. For a period of six months a legislative office was maintained in Washington, D.C. In 1932 the financial status of NRA became so acute that personal loans were obtained to cover current operating expenses.

The voluntary organizations and the state rehabilitation programs were the leaders that promoted the rehabilitation rights for the civilian disabled. The veterans rehabilitation programs and the rehabilitation of injured workers demonstrated that skill and technology was available to serve all persons.

The NRA, John Kratz of the Industrial Rehabilitation Division, and the State Directors joined forces to have the continuation of P.L. 236 in 1925 and 1930. The Vocational Rehabilitation Act was to expire in 1930. In fear of no action by Congress, NRA drafted, presented and assured passage of their own renewal bill. The bill was amended in the House of Representatives by deleting the increase in annual appropriations.

At the 1930 session of Congress the NRA Executive Committee refused to support legislation that would cover both vocational education and vocational rehabilitation. However they continued to support the Federal Board of Vocational Education as the administrative and policy-making body.

This was the beginning of an effort to relocate the administration and supervision of the Federal-State Vocational Rehabilitation Program.

In 1939 it was the NRA Legislative Committee, with Pennsylvania's BVR Director Mark Walter as Chairman, that amended P.L. 236 to have the Federal State program transferred to the Social Security Agency. (Appropriations \$3,500,000.) Mr. Walter distinguished himself through the years and was recognized as an outstanding leader concerning the affairs of the physically disabled. He later became President of NRA.

Some years later, Mr. Walter was the recipient of the highest honor bestowed by the NRA, the W.F. Faulkes Award. During the presentation it was stated that this recognition was for the lasting contributions that this Pennsylvanian had made to promote legislation which affected the national rehabilitation programs, and for his successful establishment of the nation's foremost state vocational rehabilitation programs.

Mr. Walter's NRA Legislative Committee's greatest achievement occurred with the enactment of P.L. 113 in 1943, The Vocational Rehabilitation Act Amendments of 1943. This Act provided new horizons, new opportunities for the handicapped, and a firm mandate to expand and extend more services to the various disabled. State agencies could now enter into cooperative agreements with all conventional and special facilities to serve the various disabilities. By many, it was considered a substantial upgrading of the Federal-State program of rehabilitation. This Act provided for corrective surgery, therapeutic treatment, hospitalization, transportation, licenses, tools, equipment, prosthetic devices, maintenance, books and training equipment.

With the additional services and provisions of P.L. 113, Pennsylvania demonstrated that disability need not constitute an employment or productive handicap. Statistics collected from all organizations revealed that public accidents, disease and persons disabled in the homes, far exceeded permanent disability caused by industrial accidents, or the number of service connected disabilities of veterans.

In the early 1950's, during a return train trip from an NRA national conference, John Kratz, Chief of the Federal Industrial Relations Division; Mark Walter, Director of the Pennsylvania BVR; Tommie Thompson, Director of the Maryland rehabilitation program, and Charles Eby, Chief of Operations in the Pennsylvania BVR, were discussing the impact of organized groups. A recording of that session would reflect that there was an urgent need for federal and state organizations to fuse together the skills and specialties required to overcome the great variety of disabling conditions. The staff of the federal, state, voluntary organizations, and facilities, would have to merge together if an orderly, effective and fair process was to be obtained for all disability groups.

This was a radical change from the concept that existed when state rehabilitation directors met in 1923 at the Buffalo conference. The original thoughts of federal and state rehabilitation workers were to have a "closed shop" or an exclusive association of government employees as active voting members.

John Kratz stated that without the NRA, rehabilitation could have lost the advantage with Congress and government officials during the period of 1925 to 1942.

Therefore on April 2, 1952 Charles Eby, Chief of BVR Operations, organized a meeting of persons in Pennsylvania who were engaged in, or were interested in the affairs of the disabled. The session was conducted at the Penn Sheraton Hotel in Philadelphia. Mark Walter presided as the temporary chairman.

On that date, E. B. Whitten, Executive Director of NRA, stressed the advisability of forming a state chapter and becoming affiliated with the NRA.

In 1952 there were 14,000 national members and 456 of them were Pennsylvanians. This fact removed all hesitation concerning the development of a state chapter. A motion was made by Sterling B. Brinkley, M.D., of the



United Mine Workers Welfare and Retirement Fund, "to develop a state organization and to apply for affiliation with the NRA." The motion was unanimously passed.

An interim task force was appointed to serve with executive authority and the members included:

Sterling B. Brinkley, M.D., Chairman  
Area Medical Administrator, U.M.W.,  
Welfare and Retirement Fund, Johnstown, Pa.

Philip N. Harrison, Executive Secretary  
Pennsylvania Association for the Blind  
Harrisburg, Pa.

Merrill L. Dawson  
Rehabilitation Consultant  
Pa. Tuberculosis and Health Society  
Philadelphia, Pa.

Mary K. Bauman  
Personnel Research Center  
Philadelphia, Pa.

Henry Jablonski  
Asst. Executive Director  
Society for Crippled Children and Adults

Charles L. Eby  
Chief of Operations  
Pa. BVR  
Harrisburg, Pa.

The second meeting of the committee was on Sunday, May 4, 1952. The general membership meeting was convened Monday, May 5, 1952. Both sessions were held at the Penn Sheraton Hotel in Philadelphia.

The motion made at the organizational meeting in April was presented to the membership. "To develop a state organization and to apply for affiliation with the N.R.A."

Again, it was the unanimous wish of the membership present to organize and affiliate with N.R.A.

The nomination committee designated by the interim executive committee presented the following officers.

David M. Walker, President  
Secretary of Labor and Industry

Dr. Sterling B. Brinkley, Vice President  
United Mine Workers

Charles H. Brausell, Secretary-Treasurer  
National Foundation for Infantile Paralysis, Inc.

The officers were elected as nominated, and signed the application for NRA

affiliation. The application and the proposed by-laws were approved effective the date of application, May 5, 1952.

Immediately following the PRA organizational business session, newly elected President David Walker made a report on the reorganization of the various departments in the state government. The Governor had appointed a study task force known as the Chesterman's Committee. This committee recommended the creation of a Department of Health and Public Welfare. All health, welfare, public assistance, and the vocational rehabilitation programs were to be merged.

The PRA President, David Walker, appealed to all of the individuals at that first membership meeting to have their respective organizations contact the Governor and key legislators to continue vocational rehabilitation services within a department oriented to employment and to utilize the private agencies for medical, health and social services.

All of the proposed recommendations of the Chesterman's Committee were adopted except one. BVR remained in the State Board for Vocational Education with the Secretary of Labor and Industry as Executive Officer.

This was the first major accomplishment of the PRA. More importantly it demonstrated that legislators and government officials do respect a single voice of a group of organizations.



In 1954 the NRA Legislative Committee and the state BVR directors organization, drafted and successfully saw the enactment of P.L. 565, The Vocational Rehabilitation Amendments of 1954.

The state directors were so active on a national level that an opponent of their bill remarked: "These opulent directors of States' rehabilitation services came to Washington as frequently as they desire, and, without being registered as lobbyists."

The working arrangements between organizations made the passage of P.L. 565 possible. This bill provided for extension and improvement through special grants to states, or to public or private non-profit organizations, for research and demonstration projects.

The new act provided financial assistance in expansion of buildings to make them functional for the rehabilitation of severely disabled persons, or for sheltered workshops. One of the important contributions to rapid and needed development were grants to colleges and universities to provide traineeships to graduate students. These grants reduced the shortage of trained rehabilitation personnel.

P.L. 565 increased federal funds five-fold. In 1954 Congress allocated to the states \$23 million. By 1964 the state allotment was increased by \$125 million. This obligated the states to seek annual increases in their state appropriations.

To meet this annual obligation, Dr. F. H. Arestad, President of the PRA appointed a special committee. The primary responsibility and function of the committee was to better inform the Governor of Pennsylvania and all the legislators concerning the Federal-State program of Vocational Rehabilitation.

In support of the President's action, Tom Fulton stated, this committee could serve to establish the fact that PRA had matured and was ready to assume the same role in Pennsylvania that NRA had on a national scale.

To make the special committee more effective Dr. Arestad designated C. L. Eby to serve with the committee as the Interim Executive Secretary and staff person.

This special committee represented a combined voice of directors, as well as board members or private rehabilitation facilities, members of PRA, state and local organizations, and associations involved with the disabled.

This one channel of information and teamwork resulted in Governor George Leader advocating that state funds needed to match federal dollars should be made available.



The by-laws of PRA were amended to have a standing Legislation Committee and a permanent Executive Secretary. Mr. Ted Hipkins was named Committee Chairman and C. L. Eby to function as Secretary.

The Legislation Committee was successful in continuing to obtain an increase in annual appropriations for BVR during the administrations of Governors Lawrence, Scranton and Shafer. With four consecutive Governors and Legislative bodies supporting vocational rehabilitation, including two Governors from each major political party, rehabilitation was established as a truly non-partisan program.

The next major project for the PRA Legislative Committee concerned the administrative body and line of authority of the Federal-State program in Pennsylvania.

The State Board for Vocational Education was the policy-making and administrative body. The Secretary of Labor and Industry was the Chairman of the State Board and Executive Officers concerning vocational rehabilitation. When the State Board for Vocational Education met on public school matters, the Superintendent of Public Instruction (Education) was the Chairperson and Executive Officer.

The members of the State Board were appointed by the Governor with consent of the Senate. Their recognition was their training and background in Education. The Board's administration functions were general and confined to policy matters. The public school districts were the immediate administrators who operated vocational education in a conventional class room and shop setting.

It was difficult for the members of the State Board to react or accept the needs of the disabled, especially when it was required to provide individualized and unique services as compared to students in group situations.

One State Board member responded "no public program can justify the expense of individualized services requiring a one-to-one relationship in the development and delivery of services."

In many instances the members of the State Board had to be involved in immediate supervision, especially personnel, which made them less enthusiastic about the needs of the disabled.

To alleviate a multiple administration structure, which was vague and had a complicated line of authority, legislation was drafted to create a State Board of Vocational Rehabilitation. The Chairman of the Board and Executive Officer would be the Secretary of Labor and Industry. The seven members of the Board were appointed by the Governor and confirmed by the Senate.

The Board Members were to have been involved in human services or had demonstrated a devoted interest in the disabled.

Mr. Thomas Donaghy, legislative representative of the Anthracite Institute, who was the former designated Secretary of the Rehabilitation Committee of the State Board of Vocational Education, steered the bill through the committee process in the Senate.

With the active support of the members of the PRA, organized labor, hospitals, rehabilitation centers and facilities, state and local rehabilitation associations involved with disabled persons, and legislative engineers from business and utilities, a bill was enacted.

The members of the State Board of Vocational Rehabilitation became another potent force to up-grade and extend vocational rehabilitation services in Pennsylvania. Three of the members of the State Board, Mary Bauman, Philip Harrison, and John Seeton, later became Presidents of PRA.

The amount of federal and state funds available in Pennsylvania determined the number and variety of disabled persons that could be served. The federal formula for the allocating of funds was based on per capita income, squared, and population. This meant the less industrial states received the maximum of 70% and the industrial states the minimum of 60%.

### **PRA — NATIONAL LEGISLATIVE INVOLVEMENT**

The PRA Legislative Committee was instructed to become active on a national level to have a voice concerning the allotment formula.

Charles L. Eby, PRA's Executive Secretary and Membership Chairman was nominated and elected to be a member of the NRA Board. As a member of the Governor's Committee for Employment of the Handicapped, he was elected a member of the Executive Committee of the President's Committee. Many other Pennsylvanians held offices or were associated with national organizations.

In Detroit Mr. Eby was elected President of the NRA and became Chairman of the Legislative Committee.

Lloyd Grove was designated Chairman of the Credentials Committee and later was elected Treasurer of NRA. He served as the PRA President during 1974-76.

Throughout the years NRA drafted the vocational legislation, presented it to Congress, and assumed the responsibility of overseeing the passage of the legislation. While Mr. Eby was the NRA President, in 1964, Federal P.L. 565 was amended to provide all states with the same percentage of Federal funds. This meant 75% for the basic allotment, and as high as 90% for projects. This was a tremendous victory for Pennsylvania and for PRA.

The amendment did include a provision that no state could appropriate less than a previous year. This gave an entirely new dimension to direct services provided by State vocational rehabilitation agencies and insured the participation of the states.

The amendment of P.L. 565 allowed more funds for private non-profit rehabilitation facilities. A much delayed approach to serve more disabilities was finally realized. BVR recognized it did not have an adequate specialist staff to serve the great variety of disabilities, and it extended a written agreement of understanding, or contract, to all rehabilitation facilities. This made a firm jointure of effort.

In 1964, Leslie D. Park, the Director of the United Cerebral Palsy Association of Pennsylvania, was elected President of PRA. At that time he presented the following resolution: "That PRA call upon the administrative and legislative leaders of the Commonwealth to give support and leadership to programs of maximum service to its handicapped citizens in all appropriate governmental programs."

He further resolved that: "The PRA pledge its best efforts to improve rehabilitation programs in the private voluntary domain while supporting state governmental rehabilitation services."

These resolutions were accepted by the General Assembly of PRA in their annual session in Philadelphia, and remain the charge of PRA today.

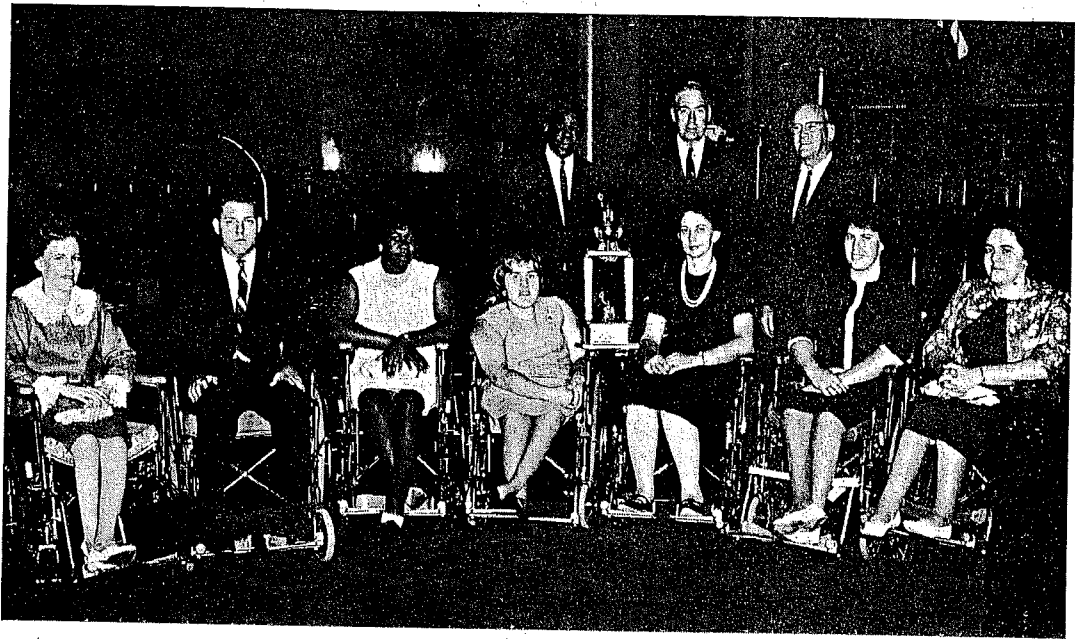
Many workers in rehabilitation are aware of the recent trend in several states to legislate a department of human services of human resources. This was proposed by the Chesterman Committee in Pennsylvania in 1952. Again in 1964 the Governor's Task Force on Departmental Structure recommended that BVR be joined with the programs for the blind, public assistance, and all health and welfare programs where a service is delivered to an individual. PRA successfully opposed such a jointure in fear of the destruction or breakdown in the purchase of services from private rehabilitation facilities.

The PRA fulfilled the charge to gain the same or equal stature in Pennsylvania that NRA enjoyed on a national level. Governors, legislators, and public officials recognized PRA as a united voice in Pennsylvania representing the disabled. They considered PRA to speak as a network of facilities, educational institutions, state and local programs who are devoted to assist the persons with disabilities to be capable of earning their own social and economic way.

### **OTHER ACTIVITIES OF PRA**

A Pittsburgh based organization spear-headed an effort to remove architectural barriers from buildings. Fifty percent of their members were physically handicapped. Their incorporated name was "Open Doors for the Handicapped." The Society for Crippled Children and Adults organized and directed a national and state coordinated attack. PRA joined with both of these efforts. Over a period of years many modifications making buildings accessible to all persons can be attributed to this joint effort. Furthermore, the handicapped have special license plates, parking privileges, and are included in the classification section of the Civil Service Commission.

PRA financed a worthy small business enterprise at the Pennsylvania Rehabilitation Center (PRC) in Johnstown. The association authorized \$300. to purchase the initial supplies for a student canteen. At first it was operated by women volunteers. Later it was supervised by the Business Training School of the Center. The operation of the canteen provided business training for the disabled, and the profit sponsored emergency home trips for students in financial difficulties. The profits today average \$100 per month and benefits were extended to athletic teams from PRC. The basic \$300 provided by PRA continues to serve as a revolving fund.

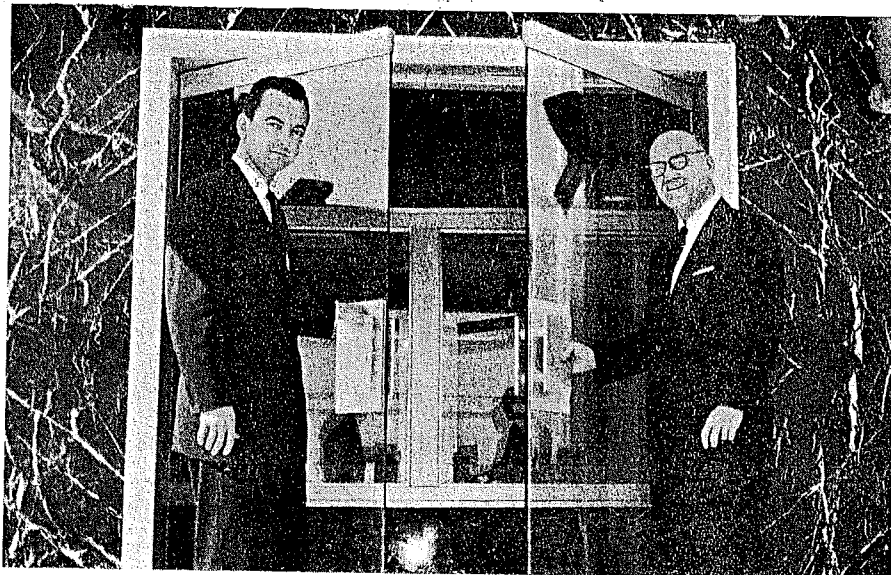


PRA authorized matching funds for a general hospital planning grant. The objective of the study grant was to institute early evaluation of patients for rehabilitation. The grant application was not approved. BVR initiated the objectives of the plan and located counselors in cooperative hospitals.

### THE PENNSYLVANIA REHABILITATION CENTER

Mark M. Walter, the first Director of the Bureau of Vocational Rehabilitation, promoted the idea of establishing a state center. Governor John S. Fine sponsored the legislation which resulted in the authorization to the General State Authority to commission an architect to design a modern rehabilitation facility.

Governor George M. Leader, Secretary of Labor and Industry, William L. Batt, Jr. and Speaker of the House of Representatives, Hiram G. Andrews, insisted during the planning period that the Center have the most modern and finest features. The entire construction cost of \$8,500,000 was appropriated by the Commonwealth. Federal funds participated in the purchase of equipment and the second and third expansion phases.





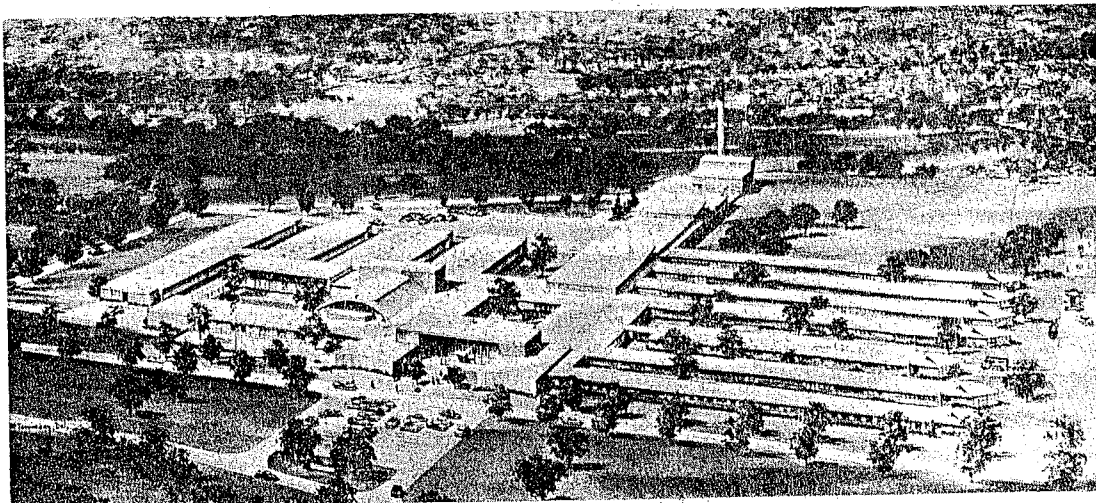
Johnstown was selected for the location when a group of public spirited citizens of greater Johnstown offered to purchase and present a 35 acre site to the General State Authority. Speaker Hiram G. Andrews was responsible in stimulating the public spirit which resulted in the Center to be constructed in a suburban residential area.

The Center was constructed to provide under one roof with one level design to permit the disabled to move about with a minimum of effort. The equipment and treatment-training facilities of the Center were the most modern in the rehabilitation world at the time of construction.



The Pennsylvania Rehabilitation Center was opened on April 16, 1959 to provide a new approach to the restoration of a disabled person. The Center is still regarded as a treatment-training showplace of the rehabilitation world.

On the opening day, the Pennsylvania Rehabilitation Association sponsored an inaugural banquet that climaxed a full day of activities. Over eight hundred workers and rehabilitation specialists attended and participated in the ceremonies, which included an acceptance address by Governor David L. Lawrence.



The passage of the Vocational Rehabilitation Amendments of 1968 expanded opportunities to serve new groups of handicapped individuals. Some of the



highlights of the 1968 legislation were: 1) Authorizing a program of vocational evaluation and work adjustment training to serve the disadvantaged including the physically and mentally handicapped. 2) Authorizing projects with industry to train handicapped people and place them into gainful employment. 3) The new legislation increased the Federal share of funding to 80% and provided new funds to recruit and train handicapped individuals for public service employment.

Following the 1968 amendments to the V.R. Act, the Pennsylvania Rehabilitation Association held six Regional Conferences attended by 1525 persons. Charles L. Eby, Executive Secretary of PRA, and Director of BVR participated in all six meetings. The regional characteristics of these meetings made it possible to establish productive relationships between BVR, labor unions and industry.

In January, 1969, Mr. Eby retired as Director of the BVR after 23 years of BVR service. Lee V. Kebach, who had served as Assistant Director for eight years, was appointed as the new Director by John K. Tabor, Secretary of Labor and Industry. At the time of Mr. Kebach's appointment, he had been a life member of NRA and had served as a member of the Board of Directors of Region II, NRA for eight years.

In April of 1969, a 1.4 million dollar vocational-evaluation wing was added to the Pennsylvania Rehabilitation Center. The dedication of the 82,600 square footage wing came on its tenth anniversary. The Center accepted its first client in April of 1959. During the ten years of operation, the Center had provided services to 7,708 handicapped clients. Clifford L. Jones, Secretary of Labor and Industry since March, 1969, stated that the Commonwealth's investment in the Center had been justified by the rehabilitation services received there. 1969 was an important year. It was the 50th anniversary of vocational rehabilitation in Pennsylvania as Act 418, providing for a Bureau of Rehabilitation within the Department of Labor and Industry, had been signed in 1919 by Governor William Cameron Sproul. Since the initial program began, a total of 175,083 handicapped persons had been rehabilitated into gainful employment by the end of June, 1969.

As 1969 was the 50th anniversary of the Pennsylvania rehabilitation program, 1970 observed the 50th anniversary of the Federal Vocational Rehabilitation Act signed into law in June, 1920 by President Woodrow Wilson.

By the end of 1970, the Bureau of Vocational Rehabilitation was providing specific rehabilitation services to 60,870 handicapped persons on a budget in excess of 42 million dollars.

Paul J. Smith, a career employe with the Bureau of Employment Security, was appointed as the new Secretary of Labor and Industry in 1971. Secretary Smith was a man with vast experience in the field of manpower training programs and job placement. He had served as the State Director of Unemployment Compensation and as the Assistant Director of the Pennsylvania State Employment Service. Secretary Smith understood the needs of the handicapped and the goals and objectives of the Bureau of Vocational Rehabilitation. His appointment was a significant contribution to the improvement of the state rehabilitation program.

## **Governor's Committee on Employment of the Handicapped**

The Honorable Paul J. Smith, Secretary of the Department of Labor and Industry, is the Chairman of the Governor's Committee on the Employment of the Handicapped which was established in 1946.



In a 1976 revised agreement between the Bureaus of Employment Security and Vocational Rehabilitation, Chairman Smith insisted that the directors of the two agencies serve and play an active role in the Governor's Committee objectives. Also that field or local staff of the two agencies actively participate on all local committees.

Outstanding functions of the Governor's Committee include the efforts to eliminate architectural barriers and to assure accessible transportation for the disabled. The Subcommittee on Barrier Free Design, chaired by William E. Graffius, a PRA Board Member and Executive Director of the Pennsylvania Easter Seal Society, works effectively to attain the goals established by the Governor's Committee.

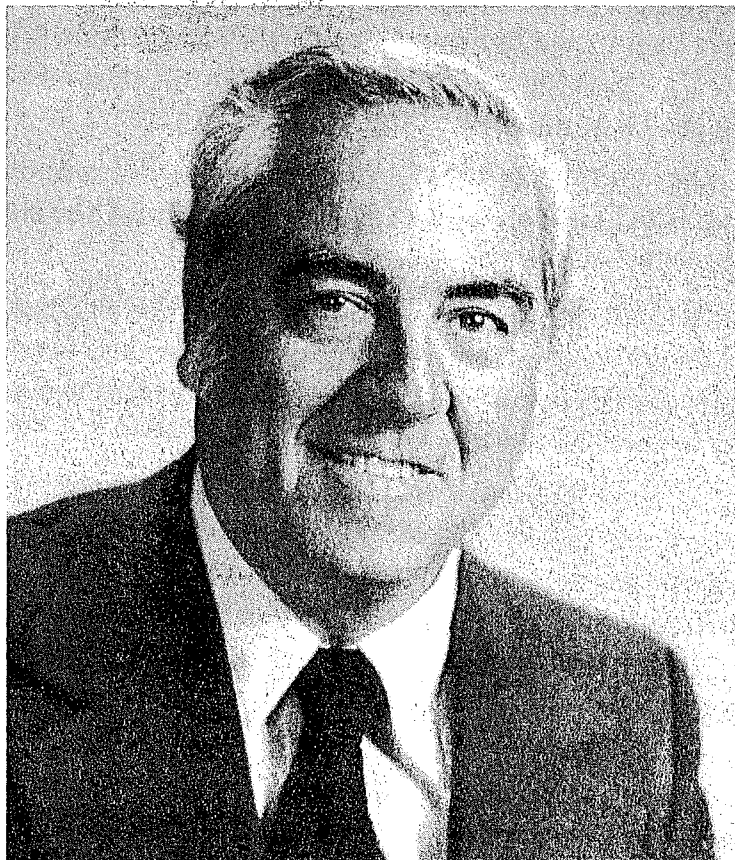
On July 9, 1976, Governor Milton J. Shapp signed into law Act 176 which requires that certain buildings and facilities constructed with Commonwealth funds adhere to certain principles, standards and specifications to make the same accessible to and usable by the physically handicapped. This act is monitored and enforced by the Secretary of Labor and Industry.

In July, 1971, the BVR Johnstown District Office was given an \$111,000 grant by RSA, DHEW to increase vocational rehabilitation services to victims of "black lung" disease. This was the first grant of its kind in the nation.

Pennsylvania rehabilitation closures in 1971 totaled 20,064 and led the country for the tenth consecutive year.

Miss Mary E. Switzer, former administrator of DHEW's Social and Rehabilitation Services died October 16, 1971. Miss Switzer was one of the great leaders of the state-federal program of vocational rehabilitation. As administrator of SRS, Miss Switzer had the largest administrative responsibility of any woman in government in this country, with a budget exceeding 8 billion dollars. From 1950 to 1967, she was Director of the Office of Vocational Rehabilitation. On August 15, 1967, Miss Switzer became the first administrator of SRS following an extensive reorganization of DHEW. She retired early in 1970 to become Vice President of the World Rehabilitation Fund. Miss Switzer was a past president of the National Rehabilitation Association.

Early in 1972 Lee V. Kebach retired as the Director of the Bureau of Vocational Rehabilitation. John A. Hagan, former rehabilitation director of the American Heart Association, was appointed as Director of the Bureau of Vocational Rehabilitation on June 12. Upon his appointment, Secretary of Labor and Industry, Paul J. Smith, said "Under his leadership, I'm confident the Bureau will move forward with improved programs and services for the handicapped, the retarded and the disadvantaged". Prior to joining the Heart Association in 1960, Mr. Hagan was with BVR for fourteen years. In 1958, he was promoted to state supervisor in Harrisburg with administrative responsibility for several district and regional offices.



The Rehabilitation Act of 1973 was passed on September 26, 1973. The new act authorized more than 1.5 billion dollars over a two-year period. For basic VR services, 1.33 billion dollars was authorized, and an additional 76 million dollars was authorized for the Innovation and Expansion grant program to be used in projects to initiate or expand services to handicapped individuals, especially the severely handicapped.

The new act also made funds available for the establishment and support of research and training centers, for spinal cord injury research, for end stage renal disease research and for international rehabilitation research, demonstration and training.

For the two year period, 27.7 million dollars were made available in the form of grants to pay part of the cost of projects for training, traineeships and related activities designed to assist in increasing the number of personnel trained in providing vocational services to the handicapped.

Throughout the 60's and continuing thereafter, the Bureau of Vocational Rehabilitation was instrumental in improving evaluation and work adjustment services. The non-profit private rehabilitation facilities in a coordinated effort with BVR provided the environmental setting for a complete evaluation and work adjustment program. A continuum of services, from evaluation, to work adjustment training, to employment, was achieved. Federal and state grant funds were provided by and through the Bureau of Vocational Rehabilitation. These funds established and built new facilities, expanded existing ones, created new evaluation and work adjustment training programs, purchased necessary equipment and provided the initial funds to staff the facilities. In 1974, BVR awarded 4.7 million dollars of grant funds to fifty-one facilities located in 36 cities to improve rehabilitation services to handicapped individuals.

By the middle of 1975, the Bureau of Vocational Rehabilitation had established sixteen district offices throughout the state, three of which were established within the past two years.

The Rehabilitation Act Extension of 1976 was signed into law by President Gerald R. Ford in the spring of 1976. The new law authorized 825 million dollars for the state-federal program. Emphasis was placed upon serving the more severely handicapped.

By the end of fiscal year 1976, the Bureau was providing rehabilitation services to 75,265 handicapped individuals. Twenty-eight percent were mentally ill or mentally retarded, twenty-two percent were orthopedically impaired. Nine percent were deaf or hard of hearing. Eleven percent had visual problems. Five percent had absence or amputation of one or more extremities. Four percent had heart or circulatory problems. The remaining twenty-one percent represented a wide variety of disabling conditions.

Persons rehabilitated during fiscal year 1976 increased their purchasing power by more than 65 million dollars in their first year of employment. Even at a low rate of 10% taxes, all the monies spent in fiscal year 1976 will be paid

back in less than seven years. What other federal-state program can be self-supporting to this extent?

Rehabilitation programs in Pennsylvania have come a long way since the enactment of P.L. 236 in 1921 when \$750,000 was appropriated for the nation's civilian rehabilitation program. And it moved through the impetus of the pioneers in rehabilitation, the people we honor today, at the time of the twenty-fifth anniversary of the Pennsylvania Rehabilitation Association, May 1-3, 1977.

Compiled by: Charles L. Eby

Edited by: Elizabeth J. Hamilton, Dorothy B. Columbus.

#### REFERENCES:

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C. Esco Obermann, Ph.D.

**New Life for Millions  
Rehabilitation for America's Disabled**  
Russell J. N. Dean

*"Golden Anniversary of the NRA 1925-1975"*

*Large to Keep"*  
Thompson

*rief History of NRA 1925-1975"*  
co Obermann, Ph.D.

**ation for Work  
Pennsylvania Story,** Walter Benton Jones

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le Library and Archives

ederal and State Vocational Rehabilitation Program Records,  
nnsylvania Bureau of Vocational Rehabilitation

Pennsylvania Rehabilitation Association  
Records and Executive Board Minutes

# PRA News

VOLUME 12, No. 2

SPRING 1977

## Silver Jubilee Edition

### Rosalynn Carter and Secretary Califano Salute PRA



*First Lady Rosalynn Carter*

White House, Washington, D.C., May 2

I am sorry I cannot be with you this evening to celebrate the Silver Jubilee Conference of the Pennsylvania Rehabilitation Association. In the past twenty-five years we have witnessed major advances in the field of rehabilitation. Yet there is still so much to be done. I hope you will take this occasion to

re-dedicate yourselves to working diligently to assure that every disabled citizen has the opportunity to participate fully and freely in all aspects of community life.

Rosalynn Carter

### Dr. Brinkley Sends Congratulations

Washington, D.C., May 2, 1977

Twenty-five years ago, while area Medical Administrator of the Welfare and Retirement Fund of the United Mine Workers of America I was privileged to serve as the first vice-president of the Pennsylvania Rehabilitation Association. It has been rewarding to see this association, initiated with the leadership of Mark Walter, grow into a forceful and vigorous organization.

My warm congratulations on the occasion of the Silver Anniversary.

Sterling B. Brinkley, M.D.  
*Director of Medical Affairs  
Rehabilitation Services Administration*



*H. E. W. Secretary*

*Joseph A. Califano, Jr.*

Washington, D.C., May 2

I congratulate the Pennsylvania Rehabilitation Association on the occasion of its 25th Anniversary and applaud the thousands of past and present members of the PRA who have worked so hard to help disabled and handicapped people achieve fuller and more productive lives.

On April 28 I signed the final regulation implementing section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act of 1973 which makes discrimination against qualified handicapped persons in federally supported programs unlawful.

In so doing, I have made clear my determination to join you in an active fight to bring about equal opportunity for all disabled people in this country.

This regulation is the first of its kind which will impact directly on the lives of more than 35 million handicapped Americans.

I am confident that we will be able to see prompt and dramatic changes in our institutions as a result of our joint efforts with regard to its implementation.

I am committed to a strong enforcement program for section 504 and hope that you will work together with us to bring about the changes in society which have been all too long in coming.

Thank you for your help and your continued outstanding work.

Joseph A. Califano, Jr.  
*Secretary of Health,  
Education and Welfare*

# CRITERIA FOR PRA AWARDS ESTABLISHED

William E. Graffius, Chairman of the PRA Awards Committee, announced the criteria for the newly established permanent PRA awards. The awards are in addition to the Counselor of the Year Award presented by PRCA. The awards can be, but will not necessarily be given each year.

The criteria for the awards and photographs of the first recipients follow. The presentations were made at the 1977 Silver Jubilee Awards Banquet on May 2, in Philadelphia.

## MARK M. WALTER HUMANITARIAN AWARD

This award is established to honor Mark M. Walter, former Pennsylvania BVR Director, and President of the Pennsylvania Rehabilitation Association and the National Rehabilitation Association. It will be presented to an individual who has exercised notable leadership in either removing environmental or legal barriers, thereby overcoming discrimination which prevents the disabled from living normal lives, and enjoying the rights and benefits due every citizen of Pennsylvania and/or who has contributed to the attainment of independence of the disabled by significantly supporting the growth of rehabilitation services throughout the Commonwealth.



Recipient: The Honorable Paul J. Smith  
Presented by: John A. Hagan

## PRA DISTINGUISHED SERVICE AWARD (Affirmative Action)

This award is given to an individual or organization in recognition of achievements in advancing equal employment opportunity for disabled individuals. The recipient has consistently performed with creativity and initiative to improve employer awareness regarding the capabilities of qualified disabled persons, as well as promoted affirmative action within their own organization. The award signals a commitment to the effective use of disabled Pennsylvanians in the economic mainstream of business, industry, and public employment sectors.



Recipient: James H. Chiles  
Presented by: Dr. Ralph N. Pacinelli

## KENNETH W. HYLBERT AWARD

This award is to be given to an individual PRA member for significant contributions in the professional preparation and upgrading of rehabilitation manpower. (The recipient, like the award's namesake, may have initiated curriculum innovations, planned and implemented programs for a wide variety of rehabilitation personnel, inspired students to seek careers in rehabilitation, or promoted rehabilitation training in legislative and appropriations forums.)

The award signifies dedication and leadership in the pursuit of quality services to disabled individuals through the performance of all members of the rehabilitation team.



Recipient: Dr. Kenneth W. Hylbert  
Presented by: Dr. James Kelz

## THE PENNSYLVANIA REHABILITATION ASSOCIATION PHILADELPHIA FOUNDERS AWARD

This award is presented in recognition of meritorious contributions in the preceding years which have perpetuated the founding ideals of the PRA. This award is presented to an individual who has demonstrated an outstanding community leadership role by supporting activities that have had a far-reaching impact and which have made a significant contribution toward the rehabilitation of a considerable number of citizens of the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania.



Recipient: The Honorable Frank L. Rizzo  
Presented by: Dorothy B. Columbus



## PRA ORGANIZATION AWARD



*Recipient: Open Doors of Pennsylvania,  
accepted by Ruth and George Brenyo  
Presented by: Bonnie Gellman*

This award is presented to an organization with an outstanding record of sustained service to disabled individuals. The organization may be one whose principal objectives are in the rehabilitation field, or one which, regardless of its major objectives, has demonstrated effective concern for the rehabilitation of disabled individuals.

Eligible for this award may be organizations that have made a contribution to the well-being of rehabilitation of disabled persons in activities over and beyond the purpose for which the organization was established.

## CHARLES L. EBY AWARD



*Recipient: Charles L. Eby  
Presented by: Dr. Gerald R. Clark*

This award is established to honor an individual, who like the dedicated worker whose name it honors, has shown unusual initiative or creativeness in the development and administration of a program of demonstrated value for disabled persons.

Eligible for this administration award would be: (a) an administrator of a rehabilitation program; (b) a director of a workshop or other rehabilitation facility; (c) or a person who has helped to develop outstanding rehabilitation programs in untried areas, although not personally involved in direct services to individuals. Sustained PRA membership is a requirement.

## LLOYD O. GROVE MERITORIOUS SERVICE AWARD



*Recipient: Lloyd O. Grove  
Presented by: John L. Bernard*

This award is to be given to an individual who has demonstrated years of faithful service and leadership to the PRA through any segment or combination of segments of the PRA activities. Emphasis is placed on both the length of service and levels of service, and is to be given only to persons showing outstanding service and leadership, both qualitatively and quantitatively. It will be given to a member who has provided this effort and leadership for a period of no less than ten years.

## MARY E. SWITZER AWARD



*Recipient: Mary K. Bauman  
Presented by: Rhonda Weiss*

Established in memory of Mary E. Switzer, the dynamic administrator of the Federal Vocational Rehabilitation Administration and the Social and Rehabilitation Service, and former NRA President, this award will be made to a Pennsylvania woman who has established herself in the field of rehabilitation, has made significant contributions to that field of endeavor, and who is an active member of the PRA.

## PRA DISTINGUISHED SERVICE AWARD



*Recipient: Carl Odhner  
Presented by: William E. Graffius*

Awarded to a distinguished member of PRA who is disabled and who has demonstrated imagination, tenacity, resolution, and an indomitable spirit in working to overcome handicaps and has contributed to the goals established by PRA.





Jack Nolan, Philadelphia BVR Administrator; Ricki Chernow, and Donald Krentzman, Philadelphia BVR; Frederick E. Motter, Goodwill Industries.



Handsome PRA ambassadors of goodwill, John L. Bernard, BVR Administrator, Washington, Pa.; Malcolm J. Law, BVR Regional Administrator.



Friends from long ago meet at '77 conference. William J. Dunbar, M.D. and Mr. and Mrs. John A. Hagan



Pa. White House Conference Chairmen, Mr. and Mrs. Carl Odhner with ARF President, Leonard Weitzman



Mayor Frank L. Rizzo delivering acceptance speech which was interpreted for the audience.



Anthony Renzi, BVR Regional Administrator; Dorothy B. Columbus, PRA President; Mayor Frank L. Rizzo; Secretary of Labor and Industry Paul J. Smith; Dr. Ralph N. Pacinelli, Director, Office of Rehabilitation Services, H.E.W.

**THE VOTE IS UNANIMOUS.  
IT WAS A GRAND MEETING.  
PRA 1977 SILVER JUBILEE  
CONFERENCE, May 1-2-3  
PHILADELPHIA.**



1977 PRA Conference Program Chairman Al Bussone with Barbara Donnelly



Steve Sheridan, Executive Director of UCPA, Philadelphia with Mr. and Mrs. Bauman.



The Groves and the Brenyos enjoying the pre-banquet cocktail hour.



PRA Awards Chairman William E. Graffius doing his thing in his usual elegant manner.



"Yes dear, no more conference chairmanships for me" says Dr. Marvin J. Kivitz to Mrs. Kivitz.



Some of the PRA Greats! Lee Wolf, Leonard Seleski, and Leonard Weitzman.



PRA President D.B. Columbus welcoming guests to the Awards Banquet while Mr. Hagan and Mayor Rizzo look on.

## PRA PAST PRESIDENTS

Thanks to Karen Lucas we have a list of Past Pennsylvania Rehabilitation Association Presidents. We are taking this opportunity to recognize this group of leaders for getting us to this point in our evolution.

1952-1954  
David M. Walker  
1954-1957  
Thomas E. Williams  
1956-1957  
John A. Kratz  
1958-1959  
F. H. Arestad, M.D.  
1959-1960  
Phillip N. Harrison  
1960-1961  
Theodore P Hipkens  
1962-1963  
John H. Seeton  
1963-1964  
Mary K. Bauman  
1965-1966  
Leslie D. Park  
1967-1968  
Kenneth E. Carl  
1969-1970  
Thomas I. Fulton  
1970-1972  
Lee H. Lacy  
1972-1974  
Robert H. Meeker  
1974-1976  
Lloyd O. Grove  
1976-1978  
Dorothy B. Columbus  
1978-1979  
Barton G Blakeslee  
1979-1980  
Eileen K. Wunsch  
1980-1981  
Albert Bussone  
1981-1982  
James W. Kelz  
1982-1983  
Robert W. Fulton

1983-1984  
Jack Walmer  
1984-1985  
Carl Pillar  
1985-1986  
John Bernard  
1987  
Larry Doperak  
1988  
Karen Lucas  
1989  
Karen Lucas  
1990  
Carolyn Hoffman  
1991  
Lucien (Duke) Ramsey  
1992  
John Brown  
1993  
Patti Campbell  
1994  
Michael McCue  
1995  
Terry Williard  
1996  
Dan Keating  
1997  
Nicholas C. Pecone  
1998  
Carl Marshall  
1999  
Cynthia Schloss  
2000  
Dina Creighton  
2001  
Lori Bruch  
2002  
Janet Fiore

# **PENNSYLVANIA REHABILITATION ASSOCIATION AWARDS**

## **KENNETH W. HYLBERT AWARD**

Presented to an individual PRA member for significant contributions in the professional preparation and upgrading of rehabilitation manpower.

## **PRA DISTINGUISHED SERVICE AWARD-(AFFIRMATIVE ACTION)**

Presented to an individual or organization in recognition of achievements in advancing equal employment opportunities for persons with disabilities.

## **CHARLES L. EBY AWARDS**

- A. **Administration** -Established to honor an individual who has shown unusual initiative and creativeness in the development and administration of a program of demonstrated value for persons with disabilities. Sustained PRA membership is a requirement.
- B. **Counseling** - To honor a counselor who shows a special approach to assist persons with severe disabilities to gain independence.
- C. **Counseling** - To honor a counselor who has demonstrated the ability to match potential with job performance and has a consistent record in placement of persons with disabilities.

## **PRA ORGANIZATION AWARD**

Presented to an organization with an outstanding record of sustained service to individuals with disabilities. The organization may be one whose principal objectives are in the rehabilitation field, or one which regardless of its major objectives, has demonstrated effective concern for the rehabilitation of individuals with disabilities.

## **LLOYD O. GROVE MERITORIOUS SERVICE AWARD**

Presented to an individual who has demonstrated years of faithful service and leadership to the PRA through any one segment or combination of segments of PRA activities. Emphasis is placed on both the length of service and the levels of service.

## **THE PENNSYLVANIA REHABILITATION ASSOCIATION PHILADELPHIA FOUNDERS AWARD**

Presented to an individual who has demonstrated an outstanding community leadership role by supporting activities that have a far-reaching impact and which have made a contribution toward the rehabilitation of a considerable number of citizens of the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania.

## **PRA DISTINGUISHED SERVICE AWARD**

Presented to a distinguished PRA member with a disability who has demonstrated imagination, tenacity, resolution, and an indomitable spirit in working to overcome obstacles and has contributed to the goals established by PRA.

## **MARY E. SWITZER AWARD**

Presented to a Pennsylvania woman who has distinguished herself in the field of rehabilitation, has made significant contributions to that field of endeavor and who is an active member of PRA.

## **MARK M. WALTER HUMANITARIAN AWARD**

Presented to an individual who has exercised notable leadership in removing either environmental or legal barriers thereby overcoming discrimination which prevents individuals with disabilities from living normal lives and/or who has contributed to the attainment of independence of people with disabilities by significantly supporting the growth of rehabilitation services throughout the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania.

# PENNSYLVANIA REHABILITATION ASSOCIATION NOMINATION FORM

I.

\_\_\_\_\_  
(Name of Nominee)

\_\_\_\_\_  
(Street address of Nominee)

\_\_\_\_\_  
(City)

\_\_\_\_\_  
(State)

\_\_\_\_\_  
( Zip)

\_\_\_\_\_  
(Telephone Number)

II. The person/organization named above is being nomination for the

\_\_\_\_\_ award.

The nominee is ( ) is not ( ) a PRA member.

III.

On a separate sheet, in narrative form give professional background of nominee, and state in detail why this individual or organization should receive the award. Your statement may be as long as you wish, but judging will rely more on content than length. Explanatory or corroboration statements from others may be added. Statements should be specific regarding nature, scope and importance of the contributions made by the nominee to the rehabilitation of persons with disabilities or their well being. All statements must be signed.

IV.

\_\_\_\_\_  
(Name of Nominator)

\_\_\_\_\_  
(Street address of Nominator)

\_\_\_\_\_  
(City)

\_\_\_\_\_  
(State)

\_\_\_\_\_  
(Zip)

\_\_\_\_\_  
(Telephone Number)

\_\_\_\_\_  
(Date Nomination Submitted)

Winners can be nominated for appropriate  
Mid-Atlantic or National Awards.

Award nominations should be submitted by: NOVEMBER 1

To: Celie Jacobs, Chairperson  
PRA Awards Committee  
116 Conodoguinet Avenue  
Camp Hill, PA 17011  
(717) 761-2466

## **HISTORY OF C.L.EBY AWARDS (after 1993)**

The Administration Award was established in February, 1993 and since that date awarded as follows:

<b>1993</b>	Randall Brown (New Castle)	\$280
<b>1994</b>	Carl Marshall (Harrisburg)	\$304
<b>1995</b>	Marlin Kester (Harrisburg)	\$304
<b>1996</b>	Barbara Shadell (Philadelphia)	<u>\$306</u>
	<b>Total</b>	<b>\$1,194</b>

Counselor Awards were established in December, 1993 and have been awarded as follows:

### **B - Placement**

<b>1995</b>	Rita Powell (Pittsburgh)	\$504
<b>1996</b>	Curtis Bucher (Pittsburgh)	\$259
<b>1998</b>	Rosemarie Freeman (Philadelphia)	\$500
<b>1999</b>	Lisa Purnell-Noll (Williamsport)	\$250
<b>2000</b>	Leonard Yeager (Reading)	\$250
<b>2001</b>	Vicki Omen (Berwick)	<u>\$250</u>
	<b>Total</b>	<b>\$2,263</b>

### **C - Gain Independence**

<b>1995</b>	Joy Best (York)	\$540
<b>1996</b>	Eugene Karmanocky (Pittsburgh)	\$259
<b>1998</b>	Wayne Trout (Philadelphia)	\$500
	David Mitten (Reading)	\$500
<b>2000</b>	Bruce Balliet (Reading)	\$250
<b>2001</b>	Robert Kennedy (Shavertown)	\$250
<b>2001</b>	Lynn Zale (Reading)	\$250
<b>2001</b>	Terry Dailey (York)	<u>\$250</u>
	<b>Total</b>	<b>\$2,549</b>

**Grand Total                    \$6,006**

## **PRA AWARDS RECORD**

### **KENNETH W. HYLBERT AWARD**

1977 Kenneth W. Hylbert (State College)  
1978 William Dunbar, M.D. (Philadelphia)  
1979 Dr. Earl B. Young (Pittsburgh)  
1983 Donald Krentzman (Philadelphia)  
1986 Audrey J. Smith  
1987 Lee H. Lacey (Pittsburgh)  
1988 Jean Bloom, Ph.D.(Edinboro)  
1990 Dr. Ralph Pacinelli (Philadelphia)

### **DISTINGUISHED SERVICE (AFFIRMATIVE ACTION)**

1977 James H. Chiles (Philadelphia)  
1979 Joni Hollis (Pittsburgh)  
1980 Harold Lynch (Mechanicsburg)  
1981 Duke Ramsey (Pittsburgh)  
1984 New Cumberland Army Depot (New Cumberland)  
1987 John Elliott(Pittsburgh)  
1988 Joseph Giglio(Pittsburgh)  
1989 Peter A. Largey (St. Marys)  
1990 Marlin G. Kester (Harrisburg)  
1996 Patterson Dental Company, Eastern Dist. Center  
(Lancaster)

### **CHARLES L. EBY - ADMINISTRATION**

1977 Charles L. Eby (Harrisburg)  
1978 H. Frazer Parry, M.D. (Philadelphia)  
1979 Albert Bussone (Philadelphia )  
1981 Donald Storch (Bellefonte)  
1986 Joyce Burkholder  
1987 Richard Petroski, Ph.D. (Altoona)  
1988 Fred Enck (Pittsburgh)  
1989 David Strauss, Ph.D. (Philadelphia)  
1990 Susan Maczka (Pittsburgh)  
1991 Kenneth Lewis (Philadelphia)  
1993 Randall Brown (New Castle)  
1994 Carl Marshall (Harrisburg)  
1995 Marlin G. Kester (Lititz)  
1996 Barbara Shadell (Philadelphia)

**CHARLES L. EBY - COUNSELOR (B)  
GAIN INDEPENDENCE**

1995 Rita Powell (Irwin)  
1996 Curtis R. Bucher (Pittsburgh)  
1998 Rosemarie Freeman (Philadelphia)  
2000 Bruce A. Balliet (Reading)  
2001 Vicki Oman (Berwick)

**CHARLES L. EBY - COUNSELOR (C)  
PLACEMENT**

1995 Joy Best (Felton)  
1996 Eugene Karmanocky (Pittsburgh)  
1998 Wayne Trout (Philadelphia)  
David Mitten (Reading)  
1999 Lisa Purnell-Noll (Williamsport)  
2000 Leonard Yerger (Reading)  
2001 Robert Kennedy (Shavertown)  
2001 Lynn Zale (Reading)  
2001 Terry Dailey (York)

**ORGANIZATION**

1977 Open Doors of Pa. (Pittsburgh)  
1978 Disabled in Action (Philadelphia)  
1979 Vocational Rehabilitation Center (Pittsburgh)  
1980 UCP (Pittsburgh)  
1981 United Mental Health (Pittsburgh)  
1984 City of Pittsburgh, JTPA (Pittsburgh)  
1986 Lake Erie Rehab. Institute (Erie)  
1987 Developmental Disabilities Planning Council  
1989 Pittsburgh Employment Alliance  
1990 Goodwill Industries of Mid-Eastern Pa.  
2000 Center of Excellence For Remote and Medically Underserved  
Areas (CERMUSA) Dr. James Bates

**LLOYD O. GROVE MERITORIOUS**

1977 Lloyd O. Grove (Harrisburg)  
1978 Charles T. Theal (Harrisburg)  
1979 William E. Graffius (Harrisburg)  
1986 John Horst

- 1987 Cecelia E. Jacobs (Camp Hill)
- 1988 John Bernard (Pittsburgh)
- 1990 Karen Lucas (Philadelphia)
- 1994 Lucian (Duke) Ramsey (Pittsburgh)

#### **PHILADELPHIA FOUNDERS**

- 1977 Mayor Frank L. Rizzo (Philadelphia)
- 1979 John A. Hagan (Philadelphia)
- 1980 Judith F. Hirschwald (Philadelphia)
- 1981 Marvin Rosen, M.D. (Philadelphia)
- 1983 David K. Bausch (Allentown)
- 1987 Mayor Richard Caliguiri (Pittsburgh)
- 1988 Steve Nasuti (Philadelphia)
- 1989 Robert Lynch (Coraopolis)
- 1995 Ivan Hileman (Thomasville)  
Exec. Dir. Bell Socialization Services, York
- 1997 Joyce A. Bender (Pittsburgh)  
Bender Consulting Services, Inc., Pittsburgh

#### **DISTINGUISHED SERVICE**

- 1977 Carl Odner (Allentown)
- 1978 Elizabeth J. Hamilton (Philadelphia)
- 1987 Dina Creighton (Pittsburgh)
- 1988 Kathy Rachuba (Pittsburgh)
- 1989 Connie Tarr (Greensburg)

#### **MARY E. SWITZER**

- 1977 Mary K. Bauman (Philadelphia)
- 1978 Dr. Gertrude A. Barber (Erie)
- 1979 Dorothy B. Columbus (Philadelphia)
- 1980 Karen Lucas (Philadelphia)
- 1981 Peggy Underwood (Uniontown)
- 1986 Cecelia E. Jacobs (Harrisburg)
- 1987 Eva Gobble, Ph.D. (Pittsburgh)
- 1988 Virginia DelSordo (Philadelphia)
- 1989 Sharon Heinlein (Pittsburgh)
- 1993 Carolyn Hoffman (Pittsburgh)
- 2000 Janell Shaffer-Yoder (Reading)



**MARK M. WALTER HUMANITARIAN**

1977 Paul J. Smith (Harrisburg)  
1978 John A. Hagan (Philadelphia)  
1979 John E. Lapidakis (Bethlehem)  
1980 William E. Graffius (Harrisburg)  
1983 Ruth Saunders (Pittsburgh)  
1986 John Nolan (Philadelphia)  
1987 Thomas Gilhool(Harrisburg)  
1988 Robert Nelkin (Pittsburgh)  
1989 David Swihart (Harrisburg)  
1990 Eileen Cubarney (Pittsburgh)  
1992 John Quinn (Philadelphia)  
1999 Connie Tarr (Greensburg)

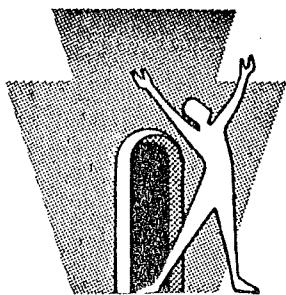
**STUDENT**

1998 Stacey Deckard - IUP (Blairsville)

**TOTAL NUMBER OF AWARDS PRESENTED SINCE 1977 - 104**

**2001**





# P.R.A.

# Nellis

VOL. 10, NO. 2

ISSUED BY PENNSYLVANIA REHAB. ASSOCIATION

SUMMER 1975

## NRA WILL CELEBRATE THE 50th ANNIVERSARY DURING 1975

The National Rehabilitation Association will celebrate its 50th Anniversary during 1975 with a theme "Saluting the Past, Dedicating the Future". According to President Lowell Green of Oklahoma City.

"Anniversaries are usually devoted to recalling the past glories and ours will be no exception," Mr. Green said. "however, we are a service organization devoted to helping the handicapped people to help themselves, so we intend to focus on future responsibilities, challenges and dreams as we dedicate ourselves anew to serving disabled people."

The Association intends to emphasize the dual anniversary theme at regional, state and chapter meetings and hopes to involve its 36,000 members in the personal and agency introspection which goes with taking stock and making future plans.

William W. Lamprell, Assistant Director of the Maryland Rehabilitation Center in Baltimore, is Chairman of the 50th Anniversary Committee.

NRA was organized in Cleveland, Ohio, in 1925 and today the Association is divided into seven professional divisions and 80 chapters in 7 regions. NRA has been a principal spokesman before Congress in behalf of improved legislation and rehabilitation services for handicapped Americans. Its legislative achievements have mean a better future for millions of today's handicapped citizens. Its pledge of dedication for the future indicates a vigor and a vitality to move forcefully into new challenges and opportunities in the next fifth years.

## THE NRA MEMBERSHIP REPORT AS OF JUNE 10, 1975

1975 Members Renewed		1974 Members Renewed	
Total .....	996	Total .....	904
1975 New Members		1974 New Members	
Total .....	266	Total .....	36
Grand Total .....	1262	Grand Total .....	940

## MEMBERSHIP FOR DIVISIONS OF NRA

NRCA .....	197
NADE .....	52
JPD .....	62
ASPD .....	21
VEWAA .....	71
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A word to the Rehabilitation Counselors who wish to be certified under the grandfather clause, your application, money, and special information form must be in the Membership Chairman's hands before mid-night of June 30, 1975. Time is very short. Act today or you will be too late.

The NARS organization has a good start. There are 32 secretaries that have joined the Division. There are activities planned for the near future, if you wish to be a part of the secretaries group, send for membership information through Leah Kuhns, Bureau of Vocational Rehabilitation, 13th Floor, Labor and Industry Building, Seventh and Forster Streets, Harrisburg, Pa. 17120.



BANQUET PICTURE

Sitting left to right - Helen H. Theal, Mary Hagan, Dorothy B. Columbus, Cecelia Jacobs, Secretary of Labor and Industry Paul Smith, President of PRA Lloyd O. Grove, and Fern Grove. Standing left to right - Charles T. Theal, Director of Bureau of Vocational Rehabilitation John Hagan, Mel Jacobs, Eleanor Graffius, and William E. Graffius.

## THE ELECTION OF BOARD MEMBERS WERE ANNOUNCED AT PRA ANNUAL MEETING

- Region III William E. Graffius, Executive Director of the Easter Seal Society for Crippled Children and Adults of Pennsylvania, was re-elected.
- Region IV F. Keith Shields, Director of Rehabilitation Facility, Skills of Central Pennsylvania, Inc., was elected.
- Region V John L. Bernard, Supervisor of the Washington, Pa. office of the Bureau of Vocational Rehabilitation was re-elected as well as Joseph L. Clavelli, Administrator of the New Castle School of Trades.

Nevin N. Smith, Chairman of the Credentials and Election Committee certified that the grand total of votes were 1,116. There was a good response on the part of the membership of PRA.



VEWAA GUEST SPEAKER  
TOM GANNAWAY

At the VEWAA Divisional Meeting, April 21, Thomas Gannaway, of Research and Development, Singer Career Systems, Rochester, N.Y., was the featured speaker at the PRA Conference.

## A PRA BOARD MEMBER HONORED AS "HANDICAPPED EMPLOYEE OF THE YEAR"

William T. Powell, Erie District Manager for the State Bureau for the Visually Handicapped received a plaque from Governor Milton J. Shapp honoring him as the "Handicapped Employee of the Year for 1974.

The award was presented in a ceremony held at the State Capitol. The Award is sponsored annually by the Governor's Committee on Employment of the Handicapped. It recognizes a state employee "for outstanding performance despite a severe handicap". Mr. Powell has been blind since 1949. He was cited for a 40 per cent increase in his 14 county district's program of vocational rehabilitation for the legally blind in the 1973-74 fiscal year.

## SUMMARY OF THE PRA ANNUAL CONFERENCE AT HERSHEY, PA.

Program evaluations from the persons attending the PRA annual meeting at the Hershey Motor Lodge and Convention Center, April 20-22, overwhelmingly indicated that the conference was a success.

The meeting, one of the largest in the history of PRA, registered nearly 300 persons who represented business, industry and government.

Recognizing the vast area needed to be covered by the subject "The Disabled and the Law," the Conference Committee has agreed to follow the same program format in 1976.

Mark your calendar for the 1976 PRA Conference to be held at the Valley Forge Sheraton Hotel, King of Prussia, April 25-27, 1976.



RECOGNITION OF IKE WHITAKER  
President Lloyd O. Grove congratulating  
Ike Whitaker



PRA CONFERENCE LEADERS

Left to right - Thomas K. Gilhool, Francis X. Colyle, John Hagan, and Lloyd Grove.

## P.R.A. News

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